



***WHEREAS**, Illinois is a state of ingenuity and tolerance that is home to a dynamic Latino community whose residents and businesses have made immeasurable contributions to our State and have helped to preserve and enhance a culture of diversity and strength; and,*

***WHEREAS**, the State of Illinois recognizes small businesses as the backbone of our local economy, leading employers, and a key resource that communities big and small across the state depend upon for livelihood and innovation; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Illinois recognizes the unique contribution that an estimated 112,000 Latino businesses make in our communities and to our economy every year; and,*

***WHEREAS**, we recognize that, much like the rest of the country, these same businesses and other minority-owned firms in Illinois were disproportionately impacted during the COVID-19 global pandemic; prompting my administration to prioritize emergency relief programs and over \$18 million in small business grants for Latino businesses, regardless of immigration status, across the state; and,*

***WHEREAS**, in spite of hardship, Latino businesses continue to see growth and play a prominent role in our economy, with the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce estimating that Hispanic-owned businesses contribute over \$800 billion to the American economy every year; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Illinois celebrates the significant economic contributions Latino-owned businesses make, the jobs they help create, and the positive impact they bring to communities across our state and beyond; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Illinois is proud to celebrate our Latino community in advance of Hispanic Heritage Month and all year round by joining Support Latino Business Day - a national call to action that officially acknowledges and encourages support for Latino owned businesses;*

***THEREFORE**, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 14, 2021 as **Support Latino Business Day** in Illinois and urge Illinois residents to celebrate and support Latino Businesses in Illinois on this day and every day.*

***In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.*

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this THIRTEENTH day of SEPTEMBER, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-ONE, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and THIRD.



Deese White
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR